

## Professional Goals

This StarTalk training has inspired me to become a better teacher. I used to think myself as a decent teacher who connects with students well. Now, my eyes are opened to all these great teachers from all over the United States whom I have met in this University of Virginia StarTalk program. Through Professor Tseng's teaching, Mrs Hsu and Mrs. Chong's modeling as well as the fellow classmates' practicum, I have realized the following goals for my professional development:

- **Technology Update:** I didn't grow up with modern technology, so I'm always kind of intimidated by new technology. I was hesitant to adopt technology into my curriculum and classroom teaching other than some basic video usages and power point presentation. Now I have learned that if used properly, new technology can greatly improve students' interest as well as efficiency of learning. I intend to combine some good usage of technology, such as Dropbox for sharing, Quizzlet for vocabulary teaching, as well as movie making for my Chinese classes.
- **Creative Activity Design:** In classroom, I'm used to use only certain activities that I'm familiar with, such as Role play, Interview, and lots of drills. Now, I have learned that in order to build a student centered, communicative class, I need to become more creative in designing activities. So far, I have learned some good ways for input flood and pushed output. I will implement them for my teaching next year.
- **Task-based Curriculum Design:** I used to follow a certain textbook and complete all the vocabulary, sentence patterns and do all the exercises listed on the textbook and workbook. Students are bored and I often felt being restricted. Now, I have learned that it is so interesting and exciting to adopt thematic unites which push students to accomplish tasks. My students will be so excited to be able to use the Chinese they have learned and be able to perform. It's my goal to gradually adopt the task-based curriculum in my classroom.
- **Use authentic materials:** A lot of times I have used materials which are not based on authentic cultural environment. I often felt that my American students might feel more emotional connections with their own culture if they are learning about some common topics. Now, I have learned that part of input flood includes using authentic materials and scenarios as much as possible in order to lead the student's comprehensible output. This is a goal I have set for myself for next year as well.

In short, this UVA StarTalk program has inspired me to be a better teacher and a better learner. I hope that I can accomplish this goal when I'm looking forward to another exciting StarTalk teacher training program next year.